



AGENDA FOR A DIALOGUE ON TRANSNATIONALISM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THE MAURICIO GASTÓN INSTITUTE, THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT BOSTON *

Thursday, May 29th 2003
1:30 - 4:30
Chancellor's Conference Room
3rd Floor, Quinn Administration Building
University of Massachusetts at Boston

I. Welcome

Jo Ann M. Gora, Chancellor, University of Massachusetts at Boston

II. Introductions and Framing the Day

Rev. Chang Imm Tan, Director, Mayor's Office on New Bostonians
Patricia Hill Williams, Co-Chair, Inter-American Foundation

III. Overview: Transnationalism and North American Transnational Communities

Transnationalism – An Introduction and Background: Andres Torres, UMass, Boston
Community Development in Transnational Communities: Carlo Dade, Inter-American Foundation

IV. Discussion and Dialogue

The dialogue will promote an exchange of views, give insights into, and present new possibilities for community development in transnational communities. Participants will share experiences and views on working in and with transnational communities; what work is being done in these communities, what work is needed to meet the needs of these communities and what are the obstacles– funding and otherwise – to expanding and improving community development work in transnational communities.

Background

Today, human, financial, and social capital flows back and forth rapidly and seamlessly between immigrant/migrant communities in the US and their communities of origin abroad. These exchanges impact all aspects of social and economic development in sending and receiving communities. Domestic and international foundations, development agencies, nonprofits, businesses and governments increasingly are becoming aware of the development impact of these linkages between migrants/immigrants and their communities of origin. Emerging from this awareness is a broader view and redefinition of the concept of ‘community’ and of ‘community development’ that focuses on looking at new partners, new inputs, and new project designs to leverage, or simply take into account, pathways and linkages created by transnational migration.

Some main features of this redefinition of ‘community development’ are that:

- investments in, and benefits from, community development in transnational communities will flow across borders;
- migrants/immigrants and organizations working with them are natural and necessary partners in effective grassroots/community development;
- transnational dynamics and actors are multiple and include not only remittances but also social, intellectual, commercial and human capital flows.



Outcomes of the dialogue will be to:

- promote dialogue and critical thinking around the issue of transnational communities and grassroots development.
- build relationships and partnerships among Home Town Associations, migrant organizations, community foundations, and NGOs.
- introduce new possibilities, actors, and resources for grant making and project design in community development work.

* Participation by invitation only.



LIST OF INVITEES*

Foundations

Ms. Lilly Mendez-Morgan
Access Strategies Foundation
Cambridge

Ms. Rebecca Huston
Associated Grant Makers
Boston

Ms. Renae Gray
Boston Women's Fund
Boston

Ms. Julie Connelly
Citizens Bank of Massachusetts
Boston

Dr. Ruy Costa
Episcopal City Mission
Boston

Ms. Gail Snowden
FleetBoston Financial Foundation
Boston

Mr. John Harvey
Grantmakers Without Borders
Boston

Mr. David Kronberg Greater Lowell
Community Foundation
Lowell

Mr. Pat Maher
Haymarket People's Fund
Boston

Mr. Pablo Rodriguez
Rhode Island Foundation
Providence

Mr. Angel H. Bermudez
The Boston Foundation
Boston

Mr. Henry Allen
The Hyams Foundation, Inc.
Boston

Mr. David Karoff
The Rhode Island Foundation
Providence

Ms. Marilyn Anderson Chase
United Way of Massachusetts Bay
Boston

Community Organizations

Mr. Fausto da Rocha
Brazilian Immigrant Center
Aliston

Mr. Chanrithy Uong
Cambodian Mutual Assistance
Association
Lowell

Mr. Fred Mombeleur
Caribbean U-Turn
Mattapan

Ms. Elena Letona
Centro Presente
Cambridge

Mr. Julio Aragon
Federacion De Organizaciones
Mexicanasa de Nueva Inglaterra
Providence

Rev. Verdieu Laroche
First Haitian Baptist Church
Boston

Mr. Pierre Imbert
Haitian Multi-Service Center
Dorchester



Ms. Lena Deevy
Irish Immigration Center
Boston

Ms. Gilda Duran
Latino Health 2010
Lawrence

Ms. Aura Sanchez-Garfunkel
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee
Advocacy Coalition
Boston

Government

Mr. Howard Duncan
Metropolis/Citizenship and Immigration
Canada
Ottawa

Ms. Marie St. Fleur
Massachusetts House of Representatives
Boston

Congressman Bill Delahunt
U.S. Congress
Washington

Other

Mr. Adam Gerson
Ashoka: Innovators for the Public Good
Waltham

Dr. Manuel Orozco
Inter-American Dialogue
Washington

Professor Peggy Levitt
Wellesley College
Wellesley

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